(ख) अधिकांश कमियों को अब दूर कर दिया गया है ।

Treatment of Cancer Patients

*228. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the PRIME' MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people die in the country every year due to cancer, particularly in the rural areas;

(b) whether such incidents are increasing every year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken to provide proper treatment to the cancer patients; and

(e) the details of specific steps proposed to be taken to set up cancer hospitals, regional centres, both for the research and treatment, during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MI'NISTER OF STATE IN THE-MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No reliable nationwide data is available on deaths due to cancer in the country.

(b) Time trend analysis of the data from Cancer Registries at Mumbai, Bangalore and Chennai shows a small increase in the overall incidence rate of cancer.

(c) Some of the reasons for increase in the deaths due to cancer are as under:—

1. Increase in life expectancy at birth.

2. Changes in life style.

3. Excessive use of tobacco.

4. Increased reporting of cancer cases in tlit country.

5. Diagnosis of more and more cases as a result of development of new technologies.

(d) and (c) In order to combat this problem, Government of India has launched the following schemes under National Cancer Control Programme:—

1. Augmentation of Regional Cancer Centres.

2. Development of Oncology wings in the medical colleges.

3. Installation of Cobal-60 teletherapy equipment.

4. District cancer control projects.

Progress in Uranium Ore Extraction-Cum-Mili Expansion Project

*229. DR. D. VENKATESWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress in the Uranium ore extraction-cum-mill expansion project;

(b) the anticipated cost of the project; and

(c) the action taken to ensure observance of safety conditions as required by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) The Uranium ore mine at Narwapahar of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited in the Singhbhum District of Bihar has been commissioned and production through the decline commenced from April 1, 1995. The mine is likely to be fully commissioned by the end of 1998. The Anticipated cost of the Project is Rs.216.04 crore.

The expansion of the mill at Jaduguda at an anticipated cost of Rs.90.70 crore is expected to be completed by March 1998.

(c) Safety status at the Uranium ore mining/extraction stage from the mines at Jaduguda, Bhatin and Narwapahar and at the ore processing stage in the Uranium Mill at Jaduguda are closely monitored by the Health Physics Units (HPUs) of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.